

## Saturday Gazette.

Bloomfield and Montclair, N. J.

W. P. LYON, Editor and Proprietor.

CHAS. M. DAVIS, Contributing Editor.

OUR PUBLICATION OFFICE is next door to the Post Office in Bloomfield.

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" 50¢ for 3 mos.

" 25¢ for Clergymen.

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## TOWN AFFAIRS.

## PATIENCE NOT ALWAYS A VIRTUE.

The worthy young men of the Euclidian Society with the anxiety of our citizens generally to see the long expected and long promised system of improvements begun in Bloomfield, invited their fellow townsmen to meet in the Society's Hall for conference over these important matters. They did more. They generously thought to save the time of the meeting and give force and directness to its discussion, by appointing some of their own ablest members to collate and present at the opening of the meeting valuable statistics to show the effect of improvements, or of the neglect of them, in other places. This was wisely planned and well executed.

Unfortunately a gentleman, forgetful of its nauseating effect upon the stomachs of Bloomfield two years ago, alluded to a cherished idea of his to get all our improvements at the expense of Newark, by annexing that rich city to our village. The opportunity was embraced by several gentlemen to make remarks upon that topic, all on one side, and the time was consumed without any discussion of the main question for which the meeting was convened. The kind intentions of the Euclidian Society were thus entirely frustrated for the time. Their courtesy was even so far intruded upon, that a motion made by one of the included guests was carried to adjourn to another evening, two weeks later, to inquire into the feasibility of this annexation scheme. We need not point out the manifest impolicy and the great disadvantage to us of incorporation with Newark. Any one with the least discernment must have observed that the temper of Bloomfield is utterly opposed to any such connection.

To return to the thought which we set out to express.

The hope of our people in this town in the matter of public improvements, have maintained themselves against hope so long as to weary the patience almost of the firmest. The accomplishment of the Gas IMPROVEMENT, it is true, gave new elasticity to the responding spirit of enterprise. The enactment of the STREET IMPROVEMENT law for Bloomfield, nobly sustained as it was by a town meeting vote of \$10,000 the first year and \$5,000 last year, was another important step forward and strengthened confidence that we were at length alive to our true interests and were on the right track of real progress. But when, at the end of this anxious period, since the inauguration of those measures, we look back to note what has been done, what do we find as the result of two years time and \$15,000 road appropriation? Shall we say nothing? We do know that the former Township Committee, acting under the law, contracted and paid some \$3,500 of the money for a new map. Who, or whether anybody has seen it, we have never been able to learn. Of what use the map has been, or is likely to be, is not easy to determine. And we fear the rest of the \$10,000 has little more to show for it. The present township committee may be able to justify their inaction, and we sincerely hope they will, but we cannot see on what ground. They have had ample authority of law and \$5,000 to begin with, and yet nothing has been accomplished.

It is our wish and purpose to uphold the Town Council in all measures consistent with law and for the interest of the town. We have been patiently waiting for developments from the Council of their plans and intentions. But as far as we know, they seem to have no plan, and if they have any intentions they have not revealed them to the public. It is impossible to account for their inaction on so important a matter as the speedy location of our streets and some other questions and for their reticence in regard to subjects of the greatest interest to the town. Perhaps we will be told that the time of reckoning is near at hand; or at least the town meeting, which will elect the Council for the coming year. But are we to go on in the same way every year, finding out near the end of the year that nothing has been accomplished? and in the rush and hurry of an evening meeting, naming men for Councilmen, to be entrusted with our vital interests, who, forsooth, we only hope will do something next year? We cannot, we may say, be patient with this, may we not say, after disregard of the great questions upon which the prosperity of our town absolutely depends.

It may be that the Council excuse themselves on the ground that they have only partaken of the apathy which has generally pervaded the community. We acknowledge there is apparent plausibility in this. We are too ready, when we have committed our interests to chosen men, to withdraw from all concern and responsibility ourselves. But let us be aroused from our lethargy, and instead of wasting time in discussing idle and impractical questions, let us consider earnestly the vital interests so long neglected. There is no doubt but we need some additional legislation for our towns at the Capital this winter.

"Educational" and "California," Verona and Majestic correspondences in type but crowded out till next week.

**NOTWITHSTANDING.**—It is interesting and gratifying to us to notice, as we have done from time to time of late years, the changing tones of English sentiment towards American liberality, culture, and scientific attainments, from that which they entertained for us *parcenses*, as they thought us, twenty or thirty years ago. Speaking of our preparation for observations of the great transit of Venus, the leading English papers said, "The United States lead all the other nations, in respect both of the amount of money which her Government has contributed, and of the discomfort, not to say dangers, of the stations she has chosen in the Southern seas. Poets of importance which were given up as too hopelessly miserable even for enthusiastic English astronomers will be occupied by Americans."

It is true that the American parties which have now been heard from almost everywhere prove that the largest proportion of the successful observations have been attained by them. They have even succeeded, as in New Zealand, at points where observers of other countries at neighboring stations failed.

The fact is the posting of parties in every quarter of the earth more numerously than any other nation is rightly attributed to the active culture of science in this country, and is the best evidence of the genuineness of our claims.

**ANOTHER** remarkable evidence of the world's progress is the recent mandate of the Sovereign Queen of Madagascar, liberating all slaves in her dominions, made since the 7th of June 1863, and granting them the option of citizenship, or to return to their native country.

**GARDEN SEEDS.**—Messrs. Chase, Brothers & Woodward, Seedsmen of Rochester, N. Y., on their recent having sent us a \$5 package of 50 papers of garden seeds and 50 packages of flower seeds, embracing, we think, a choice variety than we could have named ourselves. The proportions are well arranged. The quantity is ample and the price is low. Any of our readers can be supplied in the same way, we judge, to their entire satisfaction, by dropping a line to the above well known and respon- sible firm.

Mr. Stephen W. Gould, of Caldwell, son-in-law of Mr. Smith C. Ward, of Newark, died Wednesday from typhoid fever.

**CONCERTS.**—Theodore Thomas, a New York musical celebrity, is to give a series of three subscription concerts in the Grand Hall of the Newark Industrial Institute on Tuesday evening, February 23, Monday evening March 8, and Monday evening April 12. It is intended that this shall be the greatest musical treat Essex County can afford. Tickets, with reserved seats, can be obtained (\$3) for the series by addressing Prof. Gray at Conservatory of Music, 9 Broad Street, Newark.

## HOME MATTERS.

## BLOOMFIELD.

**WEATHER CHRONICLE.**  
Range of Thermometer at Bloomfield Centre  
Feb. 4 5 6 7 8 9 10  
At 7 A.M. 22° 7° 19° 4° 3° 2° 1°  
At Noon 22° 14° 27° 8° 14° 0° 14°  
At 9 P.M. 13° 14° 13° 8° 16° 2° 10°

This has been the coldest week of the season.

Pedestrians have crossed the North River on the ice between Weehawken and New York, and the East River between New York and Brooklyn.

Tuesday was the coldest day; the thermometer averaged zero the whole 24 hours.

On Wednesday evening next in Westminster Chapel, the Euclidian Society is to be represented in one of its annual and elegant assemblies, seeking not *personal* renown and hardy, but sympathy and aid in the support and prosecution of their well devised plan of public benefit, as well as intellectual and social culture for our young people. A Free Public Reading Room has been maintained for several years, but is now embarrassed with a small debt and for want of funds to meet further necessary expenses.

The Reverend Robert Sloane will give a selection of highly entertaining readings in his inimitable style on the evening above named the net proceeds of which will be for the benefit of the Euclidian Reading Room Fund. A citizen of culture said to us of Mr. Sloane's former readings here: "The satisfaction of his hearers increased with every visit, I can safely say that of the many readers we have had none have equalled Mr. Sloane in the popular satisfaction he has given." His programme for this occasion is a very interesting one and all who attend may expect an evening of use, personal and private affairs, and small gossip. This fault is usually due to the shallow intellects which cannot occupy the high and proper place of the journalist, and I am sure I speak for a large portion of our community when I say that we always welcome the "Gazette" to our house, as a friend that we can trust, and hold as a friend that we can trust, and the full assurance that on all questions, moral, social and political, it is a safe teacher, and that the heterogeneous mass of general information which pervades the papers, without regard to quality, will be well clarified in passing through the "Gazette." Before it was established we did not believe it could succeed, nor did we regard it as a thing particularly called for; now we cannot do without it.

Yours truly, JULIUS H. PRATT.

## MONTCLAIR AMATEUR DEBATING SOCIETY.

Several scholars of the High School, together with a few other young people, have organized a debating society, which, now that it is thoroughly versed in "Cushing's Manual," has become a matter of concern and interest to outsiders. They hold their deliberations at the residences of the members, where friends give them a call from time to time, to watch their improvement and to give encouragement.

President Richards presides with admirable tact and discretion, and as a wise and impartial judge, is entirely impartial.

This way of passing our long winter evenings is certainly one of the most profitable and especially so for American youth; every citizen, be he of high or low estate, must make a speech sometime, and he is always liable to become a member of the great debating society of our country.

The modesty with which they have treated themselves is an item in their favor;

but we expect to see this laid aside and

soon into a literary, with a name that

will make most of us resort to our dictio-

naries.

## A SLEIGH RIDE.

Bloomfield, Feb. 5, 1875.

MR. EDITOR:—

The late beautiful sleighing, no doubt,

has tempted many to complain of hard

times which compelled them to forego the

pleasure of a sleighing party. Such we

know has been the case with us, I mean the

starters; one minute in a狂热的 frenzy;

and then the next in a calm and

well deserved bounty. To make out a

suggestion practical we propose that contri-

bution to this object be enclosed in an

envelope directed: "For the Euclidian Peo-

ple" and handed to Horace Post, Master

Post, who has consented to act as treasurer for

this month, at the end of which he will

close the subscription and report through

the GAZETTE the amount received and pay

it over as heretofore designated.

Now whenever will aid this benevolent

measure let them do it promptly.

**HOUSES.**—We take great pleasure in calling attention to the advertisement of Mr. Peale on our first page. Mr. Peale is one of our most intelligent, enterprising and reliable citizens in Bloomfield. He has built a great many houses and seems to know just how to adapt them to the needs of housekeepers and the circumstances of inquirers. The location of his property is

little circle in which we move, and many anxious contables have been had to devise ways and means to accomplish this. After all we found out a way, suggested by one of our wise heads, which was to adopt the pie-pie plan, each lady provide a basket of goodies and the gents cluster the teams, and thus provided to take the road and make a raid on some good-natured country hotel keeper. This we carried into effect last night. We all enjoyed it so much that I cannot help telling you of it.

Know then, that about 8 o'clock P. M. we left Bloomfield, taking our way through the cheerful and growing town of Montclair, and although it was up hill and slow traveling, we cheered the way song and social chat. Arriving at length near a house whose external appearance showed signs of cheer within, especially as we observed an inscription on the outer wall,

GRAT NOTCH HOUSE.

We drew up at the door and soon transferred our living freight to the snug quarters kept by our friend Andrews. A hearty welcome was extended to us and we were allowed to have our own way and to make ourselves at home, which we did, and enjoyed it.

Now let me tell you of this romantic place, the pearl of the mountains, called Great Notch. It is a splendid place to enjoy the cooling breezes of sultry July. Extended views without stint; one can almost take a new lease of life there. The Midland R. R. depot is but a minutes walk from the house we visited. Now I must tell you of the house we had the good fortune to find, and of mine host, Allen Andrews. Mr. Andrews has kept a country tavern for a number of years at Great Notch, and by his thrifit and attention has amassed a competency. During the past season he has erected a new and commodious Hotel, which has been named the Great Notch House. The rooms are large and convenient, the dormitories are all well ventilated and heated as well as all the rest of the rooms, by an excellent furnace. The cuisine is presided over by the hostess and her daughter; the sons reader efficient aid in other departments. Mr. Andrews is a regular boniface, with just enough of the anglaise left to make him attractive without being intrusive.

In fact, Mr. Editor, the *tout ensemble* renders the house just the place for a mountain resort in the summer months, and as fast for a sleighing party in the winter. Great Notch is about two miles from the upper part of Montclair and a little over a mile from Little Falls. PATER FAMILIAS.

For the Saturday Gazette.

## REMINISCENCES OF FOREIGN TRAVEL.

## NAPLES.

"This region, surely, is not of the earth. Was it not dropped from heaven? Not a grove, citrus or pine or cedar, nor a grot

vine, sun-worn and mantled with the gadding but breathless enchantment."

Naples is truly charming; you may try to be disgusted with the filth of the place; you may deplore its immorality; at times you will be heart sick, and your northern blood will boil, almost beyond control, as you witness some piece of cruelty. Yet you are completely fascinated, and linger from day to day, now in the cold damp vaults of Pompeii, and again in ice of 1867, which first fairly launched the long tassel of enterprise. At the next most critical period of its history, the same potent patron comes again to the rescue. Repeated ice blockades, completely cutting off communication between these two lobes of our great city, and constantly, for days together, making that comparative rare, pained trumpet tongue for some less primitive connection than ferry boats between these shores. Distinguished counsel not unfrequently find themselves isolated from their clients, and the court is kept waiting. The progress of the great bridge just now demands a little more legislation and some new arrangements in conformity with the constitutional amendment forbidding cities to take stock in aid of private enterprises. With such a lobby of ice fixes beating at the doors of both cities and of the capital, there ought to be no difficulty about securing all proper provisions of law and capital.

Traveling in the South is not altogether unamusing, though it is very tedious and monotonous. Nearly all of the way from Richmond to Jacksonville we have nothing but a wilderness of pinewood through which to pass. There is occasionally a cleared space from which a cotton crop has been recently taken, and at various distances an old pine building or log hut called a depôt at which the train stops while the passengers are gazing at by a number of lazy folks who have come up on their mules to see the event of the day. Everything is slow in the South. In the cars one must content himself with waiting long at very unimportant stations; also at piles of wood. At one place we stopped some time while the hands upon the train went out in various directions and gathered up loose and cast away wood. As the article in that region is so plentiful, I presume they did not consider it stealing.

But to say nothing more of annoyances by the way, we arrived at Jacksonville all safe on January 15th. It was a bright, clear day, the first one I was told in about three weeks. It had been uniformly cloudy and somewhat rainy most of the time. We are not free from some such weather yet, though it is said to be very unusual to have so much wet weather in this section. But notwithstanding the clouds and occasional fogs the climate is nevertheless perfectly splendid, and the sunny days are like days of summer; while the singing of birds, the blooming of flowers, and the orange groves yielding their golden fruit in mid-winter, render the land a paradise. Almost any day the people may be observed sitting out upon the piazza, or rambling through the groves in search of wild flowers, or playing croquet, or engaging in some other outdoor amusement.

Many are here seeking health, and unless they come too late (which is often the case, especially in pulmonary diseases) they are quite sure to derive benefit.

Many are in pursuit of excitement have brought their guns and dogs or fishing tackle with them and are intent on sport, for which the opportunities are fine, whether in respect to hunting or fishing. Jacksonville, although it is the landing place and a sort of headquarters for strangers, does not, I think, afford the best opportunity either for health or pleasure.

The St. John's River, a magnificent sheet

of water, from three to five miles wide,

flowing directly north, affords navigation to points more than two hundred miles north of Jacksonville; and along this river are places more favorable, both for health and pleasure, than Jacksonville.

I have been only seventy-five miles up

the river as yet, as far as Palatka, a beau-

tiful village, filled with visitors, and noted

for orange groves. Having remained but

a short time at Palatka, I came down the

river again to Green Cove Springs. Here I am staying for the present, and I suppose you will expect me to say something about this place. Well, the Spring is simply a place where sulphurous water, to the amount of 3,000 gallons per minute, and at a uniform temperature of 78 degrees, boils up out of the ground, forming three special pools, one out of which water is taken for general purposes, one in which gentlemen bathe, another in which ladies bathe, and also a general pool in which the inhabitants bathe.

Like other Italian cities Naples is priest ridden; there seems to be no end to the churches, and these prolonged gentleness, I should think, in the ratio of about three to the inhabitants.